

Steering Committee to Implement
Concord's Plan to End Homelessness
October 28, 2014

Never doubt that a small group of
thoughtful, committed citizens can
change the world; indeed, it is the
only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Overview of CCEH
- Overview of Plan to End Homelessness
- First year Priorities
- Next Steps

CCEH

- Established 6 years ago
- A 501(c)3 organization
- 14 member Board of Directors
- Our Mission
- Operate the Resource Center (9-1, M-F)
- Part-time Director (30 hours), part-time caseworker (25 hours)

Concord's Plan

- Several years of advocacy
- Mayor formed Steering Committee to create plan
- Approximately 1 year process to create
- Adopted April, 2014

5 Goals

1. Increase access to healthy, safe environments
2. Increase the number of affordable rental units
3. Increase knowledge about homelessness
4. Increase public and private funding
5. Ensure broad representation and engagement in Plan implementation

Steering Committee to Implement Plan

- Respected for accomplishments, dedication
- Areas of expertise
- Advisory capacity, “sounding board”
- Monitor goals and successes
- Open doors
- Assist in Advocacy

Strategies for Goals

Immediate Priorities: (Goal I)

- Expanded Resource Center
- Response to Cold Weather Shelter Closure

Housing/Funding: (Goals II & IV)

- Seeking \$20,000 NHCF grant, matching G UW funds
 - Increase CCEH staff hours, hire consultants around specific project goals
- Housing/Funding Task Force
 - Assess need, stock of affordable housing
 - Identify available funding resources
 - Create partnerships (Community Housing of Maine; CDFA)

(see workplan for details)

Education Task Force: (Goal III)

- Educational forums/materials in variety of settings
- Focus on evidence based practices (Housing First)
- Intertwined with first year priorities

(See workplan for details)

Cold Weather Shelters

- 2014/15 final winter for First and South Church to host shelter
- Forum in August 2014: Housing First permanent housing for “long term stayers”
- Change the dynamic so much smaller, more flexible response could meet the overflow demand

Length of Stay at CCWS

Year	Total Guests	2 wks or less	61 + days
2011-12	144	78	20
2012-13	149	70	23
2013-14	166	72	35

Housing First

- Affordable rent and case management
- Standard lease provisions
- No requirement of sobriety, mental health treatment
- Client-driven case management
- Harm reduction
- Reduces overall costs to community

Housing First Works!

- **Utah:** 72% reduction since 2005
- **Nashville, Tennessee**
 - Summer 2013: 169 chronically homeless people permanently housed
 - Summer 2014: 135 still permanently housed
 - = 80% retention after 1 year

(information in packet)

Possibilities in Concord

- “Home at Last”: 12 units of permanent supportive housing with caseworker
- “Bonus Project” HUD funding
- Offer from CHOM (Community Housing of Maine) to partner
- CDFA interest
- Expanded Medicaid for mental health services

Coordinated Assessment Works!

- Mandated by HUD
- Success with Southwestern Community Services (Cheshire and Sullivan Counties)
- Seacoast Area positive results
- CCEH to hire consultant to help implement in greater Concord area

(information in packet)

Interim Response Needed

- Focus on permanent housing, but need interim response
- CCEH, Salvation Army, or City would not run an interim shelter
- CCEH to apply to “hold” 2015/16- 2016/17 funds
- Letter of support from City affirming need

- Steering Committee Feedback
- Interim response: Help identify a site and an organization to run an interim shelter
- Housing First: Help identify willing landlords, developer partners, building/rehab sites
- Advocate for funding
- Be part of a Task Force?

Expanded Resource Center

- CCEH committed to operating
- Must move in about a year
- “Building on Hope” possibility for funding if we mobilize quickly; CDBG funding
- Balance with need to build community support

Expanded Resource Center

- Pro's and Con's of Friendly Kitchen site
- Overnight capacity an issue?

Expanded Resource Center

- With NHCF/GUW funds, hire consultant as project manager
- Possible community forum in December?
- Be part of Task force to move forward?

Next Steps

- Set next meeting date
- Field trip to Portland, Nashua?
- Serve on a Task force?
 - Expanded Resource Center
 - Cold Weather Shelter Interim Response
 - Housing/Funding
 - Education